



The AUSTRALIAN

U.F.O.

BULLETIN

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THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

This is the official publication of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 43,

Moorabbin, Victoria 3189

Australia



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WELCOME:

The Society welcomes reports of unusual Aerial Phenomena and evaluates each report on its own merits and if requested, reports will be held in the strictest confidence. The Society exchanges information with many similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public, available information on the subject, which includes local, interstate and the latest overseas developments in its quarterly publication "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin," posted to all members. Address all communications to:

**V.U.F.O.R.S.,
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Society History

1957

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered — this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

The Society had held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in General Meetings and maintains the largest U.F.O. library in the Southern Hemisphere, making books available by post, to members throughout the Commonwealth.

Membership of this Society — which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere — is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

September Issue 1985.

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DISCUSSION NIGHTS.

Royal Society, 9 Victoria
Street, Melbourne at 8p m.

These meetings take place
four times per year plus
our Exhibition. We would
be happy if our members
would take note and support
their Society. The next
Bulletin will give these
dates. Please record them.

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EDITORIAL.

This edition of the Bulletin carries an article from the Melbourne Age newspaper entitled 'UFO's are Bunk'. The Age newspaper is very anti-UFO! The publication very seldom publishes a news item on the subject, unless the story is silly or negative. Readers will never learn anything about the world-wide activity of UFO's if their reading is confined to the Age!

The article which appeared in the 5th September edition is no different. While it states that scientists who have studied claims of UFO sightings are increasingly coming to the conclusion that these 'things' do not exist, not one scientist who is doing positive research in the field is even mentioned. Only the debunkers who have an axe to grind, a face to save or are paid to put forward misinformation are named. The writer of the article attempts to prop up Philip Klass as the most outstanding researcher. The very opposite is true!

Veteran ufologists know that many more scientists now realize the problem is real and are now researching the Mystery of the UFO's. Thirty years ago, very few scientists would dare to mention the subject.

Concerning Philip Klass, VUFORS has first hand knowledge regarding the Klassical manner in which he works. One of the outstanding examples is the McDonald/Klass encounter of 1967, when Professor James McDonald visited Australia. His visit was funded by the United States Navy for research into atmospheric physics as well as UFO reports. He was very energetic, working late into the night and rising early to listen to VUFORS Library tapes when not interviewing witnesses or meeting with meteorologists. He was also very much interested in reports of unidentified flying objects flying into and out of the water, since we do not have submarines which fly.

Just prior to McDonald's return to the United States, Ambassador Clark sent a message to be relayed to Prof. McDonald to contact him, immediately. At that time, McDonald was in Queensland. When he returned to Sydney, he contacted the U.S. Consulate, where all knowledge of the message was denied.

However, a short time after McDonald reached California, we received a letter from him, wanting to know more about the ambassador's message, stating there were repercussions in America, because of his visit to Australia. Now, who would you think would have sufficient influence with an Ambassador to try and halt the activities of Ufology's most outstanding scientific researcher? Philip Klass of course! Klass had introduced a complaint that Professor McDonald was squandering funds on "flying saucers". McDonald was so effective at enlightening the public, that the debunkers commenced a 'stop McDonald Movement'. Klass was losing face as well as money. In the end McDonald was cleared of charges. Did Klass recant? Of course not! Trapped debunkers never do! Klass, who has a standing position with the United States Media, not only to promote programs for his debunking roles, but arrange the programs so he has the last word as well. Philip Klass is so deeply involved in trying to save his face, that he is scared stiff of rebuttals. But the only people he has deceived, are those who don't know

The last sentence on the Editorial page reads:-

But the only people he has deceived, are those who don't know anything about UFO'S.

Paul Norman.

ON THE U.F.O. TRAIL

by Paul Norman (c) Copyright 1985.

The absence of UFO news coming to my attention from the Northern Territory, during recent years, prompted my return from overseas earlier than usual this year, to visit that part of Australia before the 'Wet Season' commenced.

Since all other Australian areas are represented by Ufologists who, from time to time, report UFO activity from their states, I decided to spend some time in the territory where the population is sparse and where there was a need to check on sightings in that area. My findings revealed that there is possibly as much UFO activity in the Northern Territory as in other parts of the nation.

Incidents of strange lights pacing cars, trucks, aircraft or motorcycles have been numerous. An example of this was described to me by a bus driver who said that while he was driving towards Darwin from Alice Springs, he saw what he first thought to be a meteor, until it came to an abrupt stop in mid-air. After a minute or so it shot off on a horizontal path.

Another motorist told about being terrified when an object paced him for several miles, then began to circle his car. The sighting was also witnessed by a police officer.

A power station supervisor related his story about a UFO hovering above the station where he was employed. This sighting was also witnessed by several school girls from the nearby Rum Jungle school.

The helmsman of a small yacht reported that when he was sailing between Pitcairn Island and Tahiti, a UFO circled the yacht several times at variable speeds, with no sound.

The captain of a small ship, who was piloting a craft through the narrow Apsley Strait which separates Bathurst Island and Melville Island, said that he and four other crew members saw an orange colored light above them, perhaps a hundred meters high. After hovering a few minutes, the object moved several hundred meters, then turned on its side and while hovering the second time, it extended a beam of green light, widening out to about 90 degrees. It held this stationary position for several minutes. The captain viewed the object through field glasses suitable for night use. During the stationary period, he could see a number of windows. At no time could the observers hear any sound. It finally sped off in a north-westerly direction.

Even while flying over Ayers Rock, I learned from the pilot, that he was paced by a UFO while flying to Darwin from one of the islands to the north of Australia.

Nearly everywhere I found someone who had a sighting or two. A motel receptionist told me about her experience when she and a friend were less than a kilometer from Ayers Rock, one evening, a light came speeding towards the ground and made an abrupt stop, just above the ground. It remained stationary for a few seconds, then began to move slowly to the left around the Rock, appearing again from the right. It hovered a second time before speeding away without sound.

All reports received were not limited to Australia. One very interesting case came from a crew member of a ship, who, while visiting friends in Capetown, South Africa, observed a daylight disc hover for about ten minutes, after which two South African Military jets came speeding from the base towards the object. The UFO then streaked away, with the jets in hot pursuit. The crewman said that the Capetown Argus reported that its switchboard was lit up by people ringing in about sightings during that time. This is further confirmation that we can add another Nation's Air Force Chases Mystery Objects ("which do not exist"), along the UFO Trail.

A P O L O G Y.

VUFORS is most apologetic for the delay in the publication of the Bulletin. We wish to advise members, their memberships will cover the usual four editions before their second and final reminder of renewal.

The next edition will contain the meeting dates for 1986.

THEY are shaped like cigars or saucers or Frisbees. They flash and glow and whirl and turn and zoom away in an instant. Or they float, drift and hover quietly in darkness. They whisk contented fishermen from their perches on the banks of remote streams. Or they trap automobiles in a mysterious beam of bright light and transport the occupants skyward. There, the "catch" is examined, drugged to induce amnesia and returned safely.

They are, of course, UFOs — those widely reported Unidentified Flying Objects, crafts from other worlds, if you will, that inspire myths and movies and midnight moon-watching.

But there is a problem. Flying saucers (or even cigars) from space have never been to Earth. At least, that is what many scientists are now saying publicly with increased vigor.

And what is more, many of these scientists are saying that no extraterrestrial intelligence has set foot or claw or flipper on Earth because there is nothing out there. Man, as they say, is alone in his universe.

A group of astronomers, physicists, chemists, biologists and other scientists has been gathering to discuss the question. After one such conference, "Where Are They? The Implications of Our Failure to Observe Extraterrestrials", their cautious conclusion why the world scientific community possesses not one shred of evidence about aliens from outer space was: "Intelligent life is not widespread in space."

But individually they are more outspoken, especially when battling proponents of "UFOlogy" who say that with all the billions of stars out there, surely, somewhere, there are life-sustaining conditions like those on Earth.

Could be. But Michael Hart thinks the chances are slim. Dr Hart, a former professor of physics at Trinity University in Texas, is an astronomer and author of 'Extraterrestrials — Where Are They?' He performed an elaborate computer study on how a planet's atmosphere evolves.

"I found that a planet must be situated in quite a narrow zone about its sun to avoid either being too hot or too cold to support life," he says. "If the Earth were five per cent closer to the sun, life here would have never evolved. If the Earth had been one per cent farther away, the planet would have had runaway glaciation."

Dr Hart's computer studies show that among the many variables in the universe (billions upon billions of years, millions upon millions of kilometres, and vastly different atmospheric conditions) the chance to become life-sustaining is extremely low. "Odds against forming life on one particular planet where all conditions are suitable can be very much higher than 100 billion to one," he says. "That would mean that only one galaxy in a trillion has a single habitable planet."

"As for life in our galaxy, we on Earth are it. The presence of life on Earth is an unusual coincidence, and I don't think we are going to find anything else out there within reach."

But couldn't life exist in the galaxy in some other form? "There could be life on other planets based on different structures than life on Earth," says Frank Tipler, associate professor of mathematical physics at Tulane University in New Orleans. "Instead of being based on oxygen and hydrocarbons like Earth's life, there could be life forms based on, say, silicon and argon gas."

"But most scientists who have looked into the matter think that hydrogen and carbon, because of their chemical and physical properties, are much better and more common building blocks."

UFOs are BUNK

Scientists who have studied claims of sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects — UFOs — are increasingly coming to the conclusion that they do not exist. As CHARLES DOWNEY reports, the overwhelming probability is that there is no other intelligent life form in the universe — mankind is alone.

But even more significant than the rarity of life in our cosmic neighborhood is what Professor Hart calls Fact A. "If there were many civilisations on other planets in our galaxy, we would have some evidence of it by now," he says. "Fact A simply means there are no beings from outer space on Earth. The Earth and our sun are relatively young and my calculations show extraterrestrial civilisations would have developed long ago and settled on Earth and other places at least 100 million years ago. If our solar system had been even briefly visited, we would see tracks on the moon where there's no erosion or weathering to eliminate them."

Dr Tipler points out that a civilisation only 50 to 100 years more advanced than ours could probably build robots that could make copies of themselves from raw materials found on other planets or in an asteroid belt. "Using such a system, an intelligent species could explore our entire galaxy in 300 million years,"

he says. "But we've seen no such machine — I think because no intelligent species within reach exists to have sent one."

Eric Jones, an astronomer at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, figures it would have taken only 30 million years to colonise all the habitable places in the Milky Way, only a fraction of the four billion years in the life of the Earth. "So one must conclude that alien beings would have been here long ago if they existed," he says. "Furthermore, there's not a shred of evidence that Earth has ever been visited by alien beings."

But proponents of UFOlogy counter that space people don't contact us openly because they don't want to change the course of our civilisation and technology.

"If that were true, then we would not know anything at all about them and there never would be a question," von Hoerner says. "If these travellers come light years through space, they are far ahead of us in every respect. And if they wanted to remain in hiding, then they would be in hiding."

But what about all the people who have seen UFOs and the people who have reported being abducted by the aliens on board?

"I don't have a good answer to explain all the sightings or kidnappings," von Hoerner says. "But I do know that only a few hundred years ago, many people, the well-educated included, reported seeing the devil. Even Martin Luther said he saw the Dark Prince and had thrown an ink bottle at him."

Other studies, in fact, have proposed a rational explanation for some of the sightings of UFOs and their pilots. According to research done by Alvin Lawson, a professor of English at California State University, earthlings who claim to have been aboard a UFO are recalling their own births or have experienced some common mental phenomena.

As evidence, Professor Lawson cites the case of Brian Scott, who has reported six different encounters with UFOs. Under hypnosis, Scott reported that in one encounter he was first paralysed and then levitated aboard a UFO. A door exploded open, and he was stripped by 240-centimetre tall creatures, placed in a large room where aliens took urine samples, extracted stomach fluid and removed his heart and then reassembled it.

That description, typical of alleged on-board UFO encounters, matches well the reports of hypnotised volunteers who reported their pre-birth experience as bliss and a pleasant relaxation, similar to Scott's paralysis.

During delivery there were colors, blood and explosions — Scott's door. There is a sense of betrayal and dismemberment just after a baby is separated from the mother. Hypnotised subjects recalled the birth canal as a tunnel and, at its end, a brightly lit labor room. Aboard Scott's UFO, this could have been the lab room, complete with large, strange beings (doctors) who poke and prod the newborn. James Oberg, a space scientist associated with NASA's shuttle project and 'The New Race for Space,' has reported how UFO buffs have resorted to hoaxes, fraud and advertising tricks in a bid to win respectability for their beliefs.



Illustration: MICHAEL CONNOLLY

For instance, one British physicist slipped into the midst of a group of UFO devotee/watchers after installing a purple spotlight on a distant hillside. When the physicist started flashing his spotlight on and off, a "magnetic deflector" on the watch site sounded an alarm.

The British scientist brought with him a camera containing exposed film showing the likeness of a UFO. He then handed the camera to a prominent UFO researcher. Even though the landscape in the photos was considerably different from the one viewed by the UFO

watchers, the films were "analysed" several times, roynldly declared genuine, and the many witnesses to the "landing" recounted the many "details" of the sighting to the hungry press.

By the time the British scientist admitted the spoof 2 1/2 years later, the sighting had been fully fleshed out as eyewitnesses reported the size and shape of the craft and how it had hovered and moved about.

In another incident, a college student in Maryland heard a talk-show guest telling how he had been to a planet in a distant galaxy aboard a flying saucer. The student telephoned the same show and reported that he, too, had been on the same planet via the same vehicle.

The student was later carefully questioned, even hypnotised and eventually became the source for several articles. He let the prank go for years and then admitted the hoax. Nonetheless, articles are still being printed about his journey.

"The point to all these stories is that, if there ever is anything significant to be found out about UFOs, it won't come from UFOlogists," says Oberg. "Their methods are not scientific, and almost all published UFO photographs are hoaxes — either forged models or misrepresented ordinary phenomena."

Philip Klass, a senior writer with 'Aviation Week' and 'Space Technology', is undisputed as the world's leading UFO sceptic. He began investigating UFO phenomena in 1966 and has turned out two books, 'UFOs Identified' and 'UFOs Explained'.

"Today, after many years of exploring UFO phenomena, I've come to realise that most UFO cases are investigated by people who want to believe in UFOs," Klass says. Over the past 15 years, he has investigated the most famous UFO cases and sightings. "I have not found a single case which would make me think Earth is being visited by spacecraft from other worlds," he says. "There is not one piece of UFO evidence that stands up."

Despite rumors to the contrary, Klass says all the Project Bluebook papers, the US Air Force's investigation into UFO phenomena, were declassified and made public. He also obtained through the Freedom of Information Act 900 pages of material the CIA collected on UFOs. "Over a 39-year period, there are about 25 sheets that are interesting," Klass says.

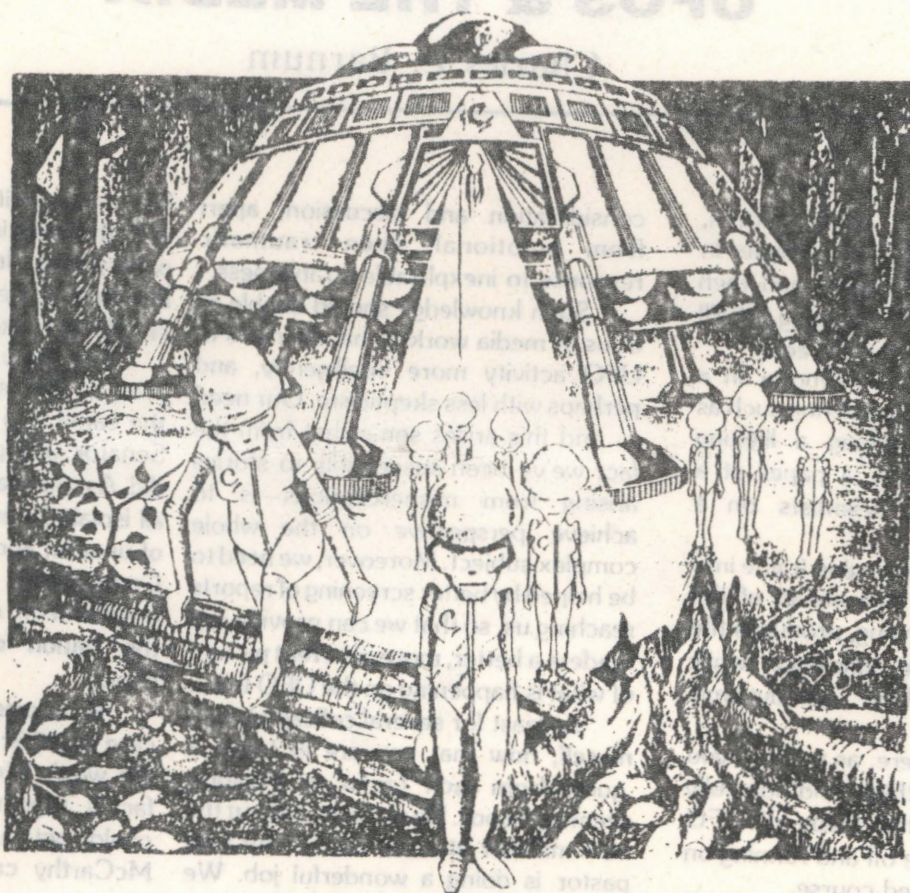
The CIA finally lost interest and quit filing reports. Project Bluebook wrapped up in 1969 with the conclusion that most UFO sightings could be explained in terms of natural phenomena.

"Of the 200 people who have claimed to have been aboard a spacecraft, not one has brought back a single souvenir or artefact," Klass says. "All it would take for science to completely change its mind would be one tiny object or piece of material or even a scrap of which we could say: 'It does not come from this world.' But there has been none."

And so what does all this mean? Michael Hart thinks it is probably a waste of time and money to continue significant searches for alien beings. He also thinks our descendants will go on to explore and colonise the habitable planets of our galaxy.

It may well be human beings who become the first true aliens from outer space.

'There's a red light ahead. It's definitely coming this way. Weird. It looks like an eye winking at you.' Then the speaker seemed to lose control and ordered the men to base.



A dramatic tape recording points to an alien landing and a UFO group wants an inquiry.

Report by
Shirley
Davenport
Drawing by:
Mike
Pochodzaj

They HAVE landed

SAY UFOLOGISTS, CLAIMING A BIG COVER-UP

THERE was an eerie silence in the chill night air as a group of American servicemen raked a Suffolk forest with their torchlight.

They were hunting for clues — traces of a UFO crash-landing reported by a security patrol three nights before, in which trees and lights at the end of the air force runway had been damaged.

They recorded radiation levels, strange indentations in the soil and damaged trees.

Moments later a senior officer in charge of the men ordered them to "douse lights" as a strange object appeared to be moving towards them in the night sky.

What happened next on that night in December 1980 is on a dramatic tape-recording which a group of British ufologists claim was made by the colonel in charge of the search.

The quiet description of the wooded scene in which men were heard taking readings was suddenly in-

terrupted by the stunned voice of an American officer indicating a small red light in the sky.

"Douse flashlights," he called.

"See if you can get the starscope on it."

"There's no doubt about it. There's a strange red light ahead."

"Weird. It's coming this way. It's definitely coming this way."

"This is weird. It's just moved off to the right. Strange! Whew! It looks like an eye winking at you."

Seconds later, the same officer reports into his tape-recorder: "We have got two strange objects, half-moon shaped, becoming full circle, with coloured lights on them — five to 10 miles out, maybe less."

"Now we have an object 10 degrees directly south."

He paused, and a hint of panic entered his voice.

"They are moving — moving up fast."

"Here he comes from the south. He's coming towards us now. There appears to be a beam coming down to the ground. It's unreal."

The next moment, the speaker almost seemed to lose control as he ordered the terrified men back to base.

The British ufologists who say they received the tape-recording recently

are demanding a public inquiry into the Rendlesham Forest UFO sightings.

They claim that suppression of the tape and previous denial of its existence was part of a massive cover-up by the Americans and the British defence ministry.

But they are keeping secret the identity of the supplier of the tape-recording, allegedly a copy of the original, said to have been made by someone at the American base.

Jenny Randles, director of Investigations for the British UFO Research Association, says: "Our objective is not to convince anyone that a spaceship landed there, even though there are eye-witnesses who swear that they saw aliens in silver suits communicating with an officer at this same spot three nights before the tape-recording incident."

"What we are concerned about is that whatever landed there eluded the radar network which is supposed to be our front line of defence."

Jenny, who has written about the Suffolk incident with two other ufologists, Dot Street and Brenda Putler, Sky Crash, A Cosmic Conspiracy, pub. Neville Spearman, £1.99, said: "We are not just trying to sell another book. We believe the British

public has a right to know what is going on. It may or may not have been a UFO which crashed in that forest the first time. But whatever it was had radiation connected with it, which makes it potentially dangerous."

"I don't know whether it was alien, Russian or one of ours. And we don't have enough information to judge."

She claims that there is enough sworn testimony from eye-witnesses to warrant an open investigation and accuses the British and American authorities of a "conspiracy" to hide the truth.

Jenny claims that the UFO researchers also have the support of Ralph Noyes, who for four years was head of the section within the Defence Ministry responsible for collating UFO data.

Civilian eye-witnesses, she says, have been warned off and in one case, paid off. Military witnesses were debriefed and then sent back to the United States.

One, who has since left the air force, is still too afraid to give his real name but talks of being taken to an underground room at his air base and seeing a UFO similar to the one which had crash-landed in the forest.

Jenny Randles says this

same airman had been able to give descriptions of the silver-suited aliens he saw in the forest, trying to repair their damaged craft.

They were just over three feet tall, had large heads with slits for eyes, nose and mouth, and eyes like inverted cat's eyes. And, he claimed, they communicated through some kind of sign language with one of the commanding officers.

Jenny claims that the Defence Ministry flatly denied any UFO reports from that area at the outset of her inquiries. Two years later, she said, they admitted that there had been "unusual lights" reported.

Eventually, through the American Freedom of Information act, the release was secured of an official report to the Defence Ministry from the US colonel in charge of base operations.

In it, he mentions both events when UFO's were spotted, describing the object as triangular, metallic and capable of extraordinary manoeuvres.

Jenny says: "The people of Britain have a right to be treated with respect. Too much secrecy could be catastrophic. The government have not told the truth and still refuse to do so."

Driver trailed by UFO

A MANJIMUP farmer yesterday gave a dramatic account of how an unidentified object followed him down Old Coast Road to Bunbury for nearly an hour.

Mr John Barber (43) said that a bright orange light followed him down the middle of the road from Lake Clifton.

He said that his car was filled with orange light and he had noticed a strange smell in the vehicle.

Mr Barber was driving to his farming property at Manjimup when he first noticed the light about 5.30am.

Ignored

"I thought at first that it was a vehicle or a motor cycle and did not pay much attention," he said.

"But as it drew closer I realised that the light was too big for a normal vehicle."

Mr Barber said that the inside of the car became very hot.

"My stomach and back seemed to be overheating — it was very scary," he said.

The light seemed to retreat but then made a second approach, he said. — Cyril Ayris.

UFOS & THE MEDIA

Charles E. Barnum

My good friend, Walt Andrus, asked me to discuss news media in relation to UFO sightings—and then bombshelled me by remarking, "We'll call your talk the keynote speech."

Inserting me as a keynoter in a scientifically oriented gathering such as this is much like asking a lifelong birdwatcher to deliver a paper at a meeting of NASA scientists on a subject such as:

"Location of the engine frame into an airplane's wing, just ahead of the leading edge of the wing, produces the greatest propulsive efficiency while maintaining the best aerodynamic results."

Frankly, I'm here, as most of you are, to learn something; and hopefully to discover that the study of UFO phenomena may be off and running on a scientifically guided course.

As a newspaperman whose skepticism is representative, I believe, of journalists generally, I have approached the problem of handling news of UFO sightings gingerly, even apprehensively.

FEAR

It's a scary subject; it requires mature handling.

The Orson Welles broadcast in 1938 based on H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds" seriously disturbed more than one million persons, many of them to the point of panic, according to a study conducted by Hadley Cantril. The story was told in the form of a newscast, but announcements were made before, during, and after the presentation stating it was a play based on Wells' novel about an invasion from Mars.

And because "humanoids" are also involved in the UFO picture, editors and newsmen generally must develop ways of presenting reports of sightings which they receive so as not to cause uneasiness, or, indeed, fear.

Thus, when I learned such a conference as you are now engaged in was contemplated here, I felt a sense of gratitude to the conference planners. We now have an opportunity to use conference materials as a basis for giving our readers a coherent, more comprehensive and authoritative look at the UFO experience.

Additionally, such a conference has educational advantages for news media representatives, as well as others, to learn more about the UFO activity in the context of deliberate

consideration and discussion, apart from emotional, even traumatic response to inexplicable strangeness.

Such knowledge should enable all of us in media work to handle news of UFO activity more intelligently, and perhaps with less skepticism. Our need—and this arises somewhat from the fact we've been susceptible to stories arising from misperceptions—is to achieve perspective on the whole complex subject. Moreover, we need to be helped by better screening of reports reaching us, so that we can provide our readers a better, more coherent picture of what is happening on the UFO front.

At least for several colleagues and myself, now that you are in town, a quote from Jack Taylor, of Missouri, seems apropos. He remarked about the new minister at his church: "Our new pastor is doing a wonderful job. We didn't know what sin was until he came to town."

I must acknowledge that as a skeptic I've had my skepticism blunted and my interest aroused by several books on UFO's and one book in particular. It is "The UFO Experience, a Scientific Inquiry," by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy of Northwestern University, your 1970 Conference headliner.

After reading Dr. Hynek's book and some other material on UFO's, I'm prepared to acknowledge, "You're undoubtedly dealing with something

that needs, not sniggering, but downright enlightened interest by the scientific community." And I might add, the something referred to needs our news media's careful attention and handling.

UFO FOCUS

I also will acknowledge, on the basis of a somewhat superficial survey, as I did not have available a wide assortment of papers, that some of us in the newspaper business have not done enough to bring proper focus on the UFO mystery.

Bringing the UFO experience into a sharp focus entails much more than doing as we have generally done, reporting occasional sightings by individuals in our reading areas.

Even Jesus realized that the folks at home do not a prophet recognize, that one becomes an expert only when he travels far from home. So it is with the credibility of sighters in their own backyards. Their neighbors, and their

hometown editors, don't credit them with the qualities necessary for expert observation. In this connection, Dr. Hynek's suggested method of rating credibility makes a lot of sense.

The study I made of reports in the press of UFO sightings impressed me in the same way that reports of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy's charges did. As one read the McCarthy blasts—all isolated—one had a growing feeling of unease, and an undeniable fear that Communists were taking over the government. As each story unfolded, the nation experienced a nervous binge.

What was lacking in the McCarthy case was this: A blockbuster wrapup of the whole McCarthy story, pulling all facets together so that the country could get a look at the complete McCarthy case. If his charges were

solid, the wrap-up would have shown them to be so and would have made him a national hero. But when such a compilation was done by a press association, the McCarthy story exploded and he faded from the national scene. There was no documentation of his charges, and nothing was found to substantiate his statements.

As for the UFO phenomenon, I consider the Dr. Hynek book an essential blockbuster wrap-up of the UFO story—pulling together all relevant facets and offering the route to a scientific appraisal of available data.

The UFO story obviously is not going to explode, for Dr. Hynek shows that it has tremendous significance for us and our time, and possesses enough substance to warrant greatly accelerated scientific inquiry.

It was impossible for me to trace a consistent pattern of UFO handling by the news media. I found that some UFO sighters concluded they had been treated too lightly in stories detailing their reports.

For our part locally, I can say that both the electronic and print media have treated UFO stories as straight news events, never minimizing their importance, nor overinflating their significance, or casting aspersions on the persons involved. Also we have reported talks by your local spokesmen, particularly Walt Andrus, fully and accurately.

As I study available materials on UFO's, I have reached several conclusions which might be the same gained by other newsmen after

studying the same documents. I cannot, of course, speak for any other newsman, but I can speak for myself.

My skepticism, which incidentally never reached the point of negative reaction for I tried to be objectively skeptical (whatever that is), has given way to deep interest in the whole subject of UFO's. I credit this change of attitude principally to Dr. Hynek's book. While I was at Northwestern University teaching journalism, I kept abreast of this noted astronomer's activity, and I gained respect for him as a great scientist. So when he says in his

book that it's his opinion "that data that now lie scattered about, if properly processed, could establish the substantive nature of the UFO phenomenon beyond reasonable doubt," I believe him.

He refers to these data as akin to low grade ore which must be processed and refined before it is of value.

Let me quote him more extensively at this juncture in order for me to make a point.

PITCH BLENDE

Writing of this ore, he adds, "Or perhaps a more appropriate analogy might be the case of Marie Curie and the tons of pitchblende that she had to process before they yielded a mite of radium. Those of us who have spent time on the UFO problem are convinced that the probability is very high that there is 'radium in the pitchblende' in the quantities of reports. Although it will be a Herculean task to cull and refine existing UFO data, I feel a rich reward awaits a person or a group that assumes this task with dedication. For if there is indeed 'pay dirt' in the ore of UFO data, it might well represent a scientific breakthrough of

major magnitude. It might call for reassignment and rearrangement of many of our established concepts of the physical world, a far greater event than the rearrangements that were necessary when relativity and quantum mechanics demanded entrance into our formerly cozy picture of the world."

Dr. Hynek, as you may know, concludes his book with these words:

"When the long awaited solution to the UFO problem comes, I believe that it will prove to be not merely the next small step in the march of science but a mighty and totally unexpected quantum jump."

Now here is my point in quoting Dr. Hynek:

Our news media have and will give space to comments like these coming from such an authoritative source. I cite

you as an example the article on Dr. Hynek and his views in the Chicago Tribune Sunday magazine of June 4, 1972.

The article interested me particularly because it opens with the following paragraphs and I quote them for a reason. Before reading them, however, let me say that if support on a

massive scale is ever to be obtained to do the kind of research that Dr. Hynek, and obviously many of you, are interested in, then material like the magazine article will do much to establish credibility and authority for the project.

HYNEK

Now may I quote:

"Hanging on the wall of Dr. J. Allen Hynek's office at Northwestern University is a framed cartoon. It shows a flying saucer parked on a college campus and five small creatures confronting a passerby. With antennae sprouting from their helmets and ray guns at their sides, they are asking, 'Could you direct us to that chemistry professor who called us 'swamp gas'?"

"It was Dr. Hynek—an astronomer, not a chemistry professor, who said that strange lights sighted near Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1966 were nothing more than swamp gases released by unseasonably warm weather. Despite his debunking of these sightings, Hynek is not ready to discount all reports of flying saucers. He believes there is a possibility we are being visited by strange craft—and even 'little people'—from another planet. He believes that flying saucers or UFO's—unidentified flying objects—

may be something more substantial than mere hoaxes or the results of traumatic experiences.

"Dr. Hynek is an astronomer of impressive credentials, a scientist of as much skepticism as intelligence—and that is considerable. His list of degrees, affiliations, and accomplishments is more than suitable reference for his credibility—and sensibility."

It is, of course, our job in news media to bring before our readers all relevant happenings on our planet, provided we can get adequate information about them. I don't know of any newsman who doesn't try to do this.

We cannot ignore the UFO phenomenon for one reason because many responsible people have become involved, and for another reason because responsible scientists like Dr.

Hynek and Dr. David R. Saunders are lending their prestige to find scientific answers to the problem.

And while we have a duty to report much of what is happening on the UFO front—and to a limited degree we do—we also must keep our eyes open to the interrelationships that may exist between the UFO mystery and other scientific fields of inquiry.

One of our journalistic difficulties, or perhaps shortcomings might be a better way to express what I mean, is our reluctance—with some notable and laudatory exceptions—to seek out and report the context of events, or simply to put isolated reports, as for instance UFO sightings, in meaningful context.

Let me illustrate. Since the 1969 Condon Report, whose authors, I suppose, thought they were banishing



Dr. J. Allen Hynek

—Dennis Stacy



the UFO phenomenon from any further serious consideration, and the closing of the Air Force Blue Book, UFO reports persist in tantalizing the imagination of scientists and others interested in the mystery of space and extraterrestrial life.

Indeed, the UFO phenomenon persists like our peculiar style of downtown architecture—contemporary neglect.

It is worth noting here that the Condon Report's stature was most certainly enhanced when the National Academy of Sciences fully endorsed it and its methodology.

Were we to put the UFO picture in true perspective, therefore, a story is in order reporting continuous UFO sightings of various degrees of credibility—all over the globe. In other words, there's a story here that some of us haven't reported, and I haven't seen it elsewhere, though I may have missed it.

But there's another story of greater significance and import involving the National Academy of Sciences. And this story's dimensions enhance a subject closely akin to the subject matter engaging your attention at this conference.

The story was handled deftly and imaginatively by John Lear, Science Editor of *Saturday Review*, in the June 10, 1972, issue. Lear's piece is a fine job of reporting, and is good journalism, for he has given scope in depth of another development of great scientific potential. You here could with justice hail the revelation contained in a

document released by the Committee on Science and Public Policy of the National Academy of Sciences that a special panel of two dozen astronomers

believes that there is such a thing as extraterrestrial intelligence. The astronomers, in short, believe life exists on the planets of many stars other than the sun, and that the extraterrestrial creatures involved may be trying to communicate with other beings in the universe.

Lear's article was headlined, incidentally, "The search for man's relatives among the stars."

Lear introduced his article by posing an imaginative want-ad that reads as follows:

"Historic opportunity: Is a generous person who can afford to spend \$70 million of his own money willing to spend it in hunting for man's long-lost relatives far out among the stars? Will this person please contact Prof. Melvin Calvin, chairman, Committee on Science and Public Policy, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C."

Because I believe it has intense interest here, I am picking up Lear's paraphrase of the NAS document, a liberty I'm sure the *Saturday Review* will forgive, for it should whet your appetite to buy the magazine and read the entire article:

"During the last few years so many of the primitive molecules from which the building blocks of life on earth are made have been seen in the distant sky that the existence of life on the planets of many stars other than the sun can be taken for granted. The inhabitants of some of these planets must be at least as intelligent as we are, and it is logical to assume that they use the electromagnetic spectrum to communicate with each other over long distances, as we do. We could eavesdrop on their messages now if we tried hard enough. Because our own fate as a species ultimately depends on

our willingness to recognize ourselves as evolving creatures in an evolving environment, we cannot afford to wait much longer before beginning to listen seriously for clues to the whereabouts of these remote civilizations, locate

them, and try to engage them in conversation, pending the still unforeseeable time when discovery of new physical laws may allow us to visit them or permit them to visit us."

The NAS report said in addition that "at this instant through this very document are perhaps passing radio waves bearing the conversations of distant creatures, which we could record if we but pointed an existing radio telescope in the right direction and tuned it to the proper frequency."

The articles I have quoted from are excellent examples of good press coverage of man's search to unlock the doors to the unknown and thus enrich the destiny of all of us here on earth.

Dr. Hynek expressed the wish for a massive scientific investigation of the UFO phenomenon. Such an investigation would take the same kind of money Lear seeks for NAS's probe for extraterrestrial life—a goal believed entirely achievable if sufficient resources are forthcoming.

UFO COVERAGE

Unraveling of the UFO mystery, too, is possible, in my view after an altogether too brief study of press and book coverage of UFO's. But this will take time, effort, and all the enthusiastic persistence you who are studying

UFO's can muster. In fact, you'll have to go way beyond the motivation of a certain doctor in our town who doesn't operate unless it's necessary. If he doesn't need the money, he doesn't operate.

Meanwhile, back on the farm. I've been forgetting my purpose here. I'm a feeble keynoter; in fact, I've wandered a bit from the so-called topic Walt assigned me.

Strictly hewing to our performance record to date—with some exceptions—our job is to remain objectively interested, reporting UFO sightings without bias.

In closing, I have several suggestions concerning the way UFO's should be reported—these suggestions come from many of us in the news media.

Rushing to news rooms with stories of isolated sightings by one or two individuals will neither serve the cause of UFO scientific inquiry, nor the public's need to know. You realize only too well that sometimes you take months to verify the substance of such reports, so hasty publication might be misleading and present the whole UFO picture in a bad light.

Certainly, if a UFO is witnessed by several, say 5 or more, reliable persons,

an immediate story may be in order and should be reported by someone like Walt Andrus who is level-headed about the phenomenon.

Other ways in which you may aid the news media in keeping the public informed of UFO happenings include:

1. Providing interviews with recognized scientists like Dr. Hynek and Dr. Saunders.
2. Holding conferences such as this which pull together the views of experts in the field.
3. Making appearances before groups such as luncheon clubs, always making sure speakers provide reporters with adequate summaries of their remarks.
4. Releasing pictures of sightings if they tell a significant story.
5. Assisting reporters and editors in pulling together isolated reports and facts so that they may be presented in a total context possessing meaning. A good example here is the significance of the events in 1954 as pointed out by Jacques Vallee.

These are some suggestions I leave with you in the hope that by obtaining your cooperation we in the news media can present a clearer picture of the UFO significance. Additionally, let me say that I'm sure you'll find news media representatives willing to give our field objective treatment if you'll make yourselves available for providing



Charles E. Barnum, Keynote Speaker

answers which newsmen may need to handle information about UFO's intelligently.

As your so-called keynoter, I'm privileged to welcome you to Quincy, an open-minded city, a truly great city that welcomes new ideas and a city wherein scientific research in many fields has reached a high level of sophistication. Thus, the scientific trend in our exploration of UFO's will attract to its echo a warm welcome from all of us here to all of you.

Specialist in aliens: fact and fiction

By RICHARD GUILLIATT

DAVID Brin, a Californian who divides his time between NASA space-station research and writing award-winning science fiction, put on his scientist's cap yesterday to address the Melbourne University physics department on extra-terrestrial life. His verdict: things could be out there, and they could probably eat us.

But the genial Mr Brin, whose imagination has produced a phantasmagoria of fictional alien beings, remains unimpressed by UFO sightings and the Erich von Daniken theory that we have already been visited.

I consider von Daniken's evidence to be garbage," he said. "It's interesting garbage, fascinating garbage, but if UFOs and the von Daniken thing are real aliens, they (the aliens) aren't nice people, they aren't intelligent people. They're a bunch of punks. They're the punks who stole dad's rocket and buzzed the neighbors for laughs. If they were real, they

would have left better artefacts, better clues as to their existence."

At 35, David Brin has had a rapid rise through the science-fiction ranks, winning both the Nebula and Hugo Awards in 1984 for his second novel 'Startide Rising'. It is not surprising that fiction writing has gradually overtaken his factual research at the California Space Institute.

"It's easier and I'm better at it," he explained simply. One imagines science fiction also pays better — Warner Brothers have already bought the rights to his unpublished fourth novel, 'The Postman'. The novel is set in post-apocalypse America, but here again there is a divergence between the author's written word and his beliefs. Despite being a Democrat, he sees Reagan's 'Star Wars' program as a lot more harmless than most forms of military research.

"I think we're safer now than we were 10 years ago," he said. "I'm a very optimistic person and I think people are concerned about war, about pollution and about human rights. I hear people who are voracious for the future,

interested in change, and hopeful." Science fiction, he says, has played a part in this.

"A lot of science fiction tries to show where we are going, convey warnings, or, most importantly of all, develop new myths that will help us through the next century," Mr Brin said. "ET" and movies like that have dealt with how the future can be friendly, how changes we are undergoing don't have to frighten us. These myths are working — people are far less afraid than we could have expected given the changes we are going through."

As for the extra-terrestrials, Mr Brin's university address was peppered with references to conflicting paradigms, momentum transfer, reprocessing, reconfiguration and interstellar dust absorption, but few clues as to what they might look like or whether they would share ET's pacifist tendencies.

"I think it's highly possible that we will find intelligent life out there," he said. "If there are large numbers of extra-terrestrials out there, certainly one species would have done what we did, which is

to settle, grow, and have lots of babies. It's likely that life elsewhere is very, very similar to ours. It's likely that it will be able to eat us, or we will be able to eat it."

Scientists, he admitted, have not produced any major evidence of alien life. One astronomer picked up exciting voice signals only to discover that it was the Massachusetts police department. "So much for the search for intelligent life"

"AGE"
MELBOURNE
24th AUG 1985

Wran in mystery UFO sighting

By JOHN DIKKENBERG

AUTHORITIES were today unable to explain the presence of a UFO near an aircraft carrying Premier Wran and State Agriculture Minister Jack Hallam over the NSW north coast this week.

The two politicians were passengers in a Government chartered jet which passed near the mystery object over northern NSW at 8am on Thursday.

The UFO, which was described as "extremely bright and spherical," was photographed from the cockpit of the Premier's chartered jet by the first officer, Gary Elsass, of Rose Bay.

The pilots of an Ansett Boeing, believed to be AN 62 travelling from Sydney to Brisbane, also sighted the UFO and reported it to the Brisbane Airport control tower.

Pilot, ministers, radar report 'shiny object'

Yesterday, the Sydney Meteorological Bureau reported contact with "an object" hovering almost stationary 100,000 feet above Coffs Harbor.

"It appears to be too high and too unmoving to be a normal weather balloon," a spokesman said. "We are trying to work out what it is."

There were conflicting reports between the Weather Bureau and airline operations whether the object was slowly edging East or West.

Mr Wran yesterday said the object was "quite eerie, quite spooky" and had a large oblong shape.

He said what he had seen was "very bright and shiny", and could not identify it.

"I have never come across anything

like it before and neither has Mr Hallam, or the two pilots, who are very experienced," Mr Wran said.

"We thought at first it was an optical illusion."

Mr Elsass said the Citation aircraft was travelling at 35,000 feet 100 kilometres south of Coolangatta about 9am when the object was sighted.

"Our aircraft was travelling at about 380 knots and the object appeared to be almost stationary by comparison," he said.

"It was very high, too high to be properly identifiable, but I don't think it was a balloon, radar deflector, satellite or rocket case."

"I contacted Brisbane operations that evening and was told there were

no weather balloons in the area at the time.

The daily NOTAM to air pilots also made no mention of weather balloons."

The photographs taken by Mr Elsass show the UFO as a pin-prick of light on the horizon.

A 77 Squadron Mirage fighter was vectored from Williamstown at 12.30pm to identify a radar contact 250 kilometres north of the base which was suspected of being the UFO.

The Mirage pilot, Flight Lieutenant Ray France, was unable to positively identify the object because of its great altitude, some 10 kilometres higher than the Mirage.

● Continued P.2



□ Where UFO sighted



□ Pilot Greg Elsass

Wran in UFO sighting

Mr Wran's Press Secretary, Mr David Hurley, said the object was visible from the Citation for about three minutes.

"The strange thing was that its underside remained aglow even when it was opposite to the sun. You would have expected it to go into shadow," he said.

A meteorological spokesman said the only weather balloon which

● From P.1.

could behave like that reported by the Wran party was the HIBAL (high balloon) which used to be launched out of Alice Springs.

"They stopped launching them some years ago," he said. "It's either one that has remained aloft all these years, or one that was launched from an

other country.

"The modern weather balloon couldn't hover in the stationary manner this one is doing. I don't know of any other Australian agency that has a balloon which could."

According to the RAAF report of the incident: "The most likely explanation is that it is some sort of research balloon, operated by sources unknown at this stage."

Space aliens may have landed near Fingal

Strange things have been happening in the Fingal Valley, it seems.

Mr Don Ives, a music teacher and former bank manager, of Scamander, said yesterday that he saw an unidentified flying object while driving through the Fingal Valley at 1.45 am on Wednesday.

Mr Ives said he saw some type of craft, about the size of a small plane, with port-hole type lights of all colours.

"It was about half a kilometre away, down in a gully, and appeared to be landing," Mr Ives said.

"It was drizzling at the time so I stopped the car to ensure that it wasn't a reflection from my lights — the craft was making no sound at all.

"The object then disappeared below a hill but the illumination of its lights could still be seen," he said.

Mr Ives said he was convinced it was not a plane or a helicopter.

Does he believe that what he saw was a craft from outer space?

"Unless the Civil Aviation proves otherwise — yes," Mr Ives said.

"So many of these sightings are in secluded places and near water. Perhaps they have to land to take in water," Mr Ives said.

A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Department said they had not received any reports that would coincide with Mr Ives' sighting.

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH N.S.W. 8th Sept 85

Lights leave Lithgow unshaken

THE people of Lithgow were amused. Snuggled in a valley of the Blue Mountains western foothills, they were certainly not distraught at two reports within two days the other week that UFOs had been seen in the area.

Rather than strange sensations in the sky above, it's what's happening underneath that is the subject of pub debate and speculation.

Since February this year four substantial earth tremors have shaken the area — nothing alarming, but interesting enough for the Bureau of Mineral Resources in Canberra to install a seismograph in the town to monitor any other activity.

The joke around the town now is that the unidentified flying objects have gone underground and last month's sightings were of them trying to get out of the place, rather than be part of a plot to take over the world.

And the only flying saucers they have seen are when things get a little bolsterous down at the local.

Not so amused are the people who made the actual sightings — on Sunday, July 21, by 17 people on a bus travelling back to Katoomba after a day trip to Dunedoo, and then the following evening by a Sydney doctor and his wife returning home from Mudgee.

Dr John Warneford, of Wahroonga, said that for 18 minutes they watched two bright lights, about double the size of a small aircraft, with one small, dull red light behind.

"They were two bright white lights, like quartz halogens, flashing at about one-second intervals," he said.

"There was no sound and they didn't move at all — they were sitting about 600m above the ground."

It was dark, just after sunset, outside the tiny township of Capertee along a 25km stretch between Running Stream and Jews Creek on the Mudgee road.

Dr Warneford said he had explored every rational possibility of what could have caused these lights but remained confounded.

"I've been travelling that road now for more than 14 years, at least 20 times a year, and I've never seen anything like it," he said.

"Up till now I've been a complete non-believer in that sort of thing."

"I've got a scientifically trained mind and always think logically to explain anything unusual."

"But this is the most eerie thing I've ever experienced."

Mrs Elizabeth Teesz and her 15-year-old daughter Gina were with members of the Katoomba Lapidary Club the following evening, travelling along the same stretch of road as the Warnefords.

Mrs Teesz saw two bright, pale yellow lights, shaped like rugby footballs, almost sitting on

top of each other. This time, though, the lights lasted only three to five seconds.

"They seemed to have a star effect, sparkling and twinkling, and then just disappeared," she said.

"Everybody on the bus saw it, but nobody was frightened, everyone was excited. It was so big and bright it was fantastic."

Sceptical

Only the bus driver, Mr Bill Laskey, remains sceptical. His initial reaction was that they were the lights of a landing plane, until he realised there was nowhere in the area that a plane could land.

Nothing will convince him it was a UFO but Mrs Teesz would not be surprised if it was an alien space craft.

She said: "Sooner or

later there must be visits from another planet. I'm looking forward to it. I would like to shake hands with them, I'm sure they must be friendly."

Senior Constable Peter Whitfield, who was not amused at being sent out in the dead of night to investigate the claims, is keeping an open mind.

"If man can go to the moon there is no reason why things or whatever from out there can't come here," he said.

"But you've got to bear in mind that parts of Mudgee are fine wine-producing areas and with some misty cloud and a bit of moon, as there was on those nights, things can get a bit distorted."

Officialdom is also not amused. So much so that the Government will no longer follow up any more sightings.

The Department of Defence, according to an Air Force spokesman, is

tired of being used as a general clearing house, "by default", for all mysterious sights and sounds emanating from the night sky.

"We are no longer interested unless they pose a threat to national security," the spokesman said.

"Only if someone or something appears with a weapon and points it at someone are we concerned. We now simply assume that such a thing is peaceful."

"Last year there was an example of strange signals like high speed blip coming over the radar screens at Mascot airport. We had people standing by all weekend."

"It turned out to be a fault in the radar."

The department now merely makes a record of any sighting it is told about and then refers those who saw the lights to the UFO societies, it has on record.



□ Mrs Teesz and Gina with a sketch of what they saw and (above) another sketch by Mrs Teesz

AIR FORCE JETS SENT AFTER UFO.

The identity of the "bright flying object" seen over parts of Matabeleland and Bulawayo and which out-performed two Hawk fighter jets in a chase has still not been established.

"This was no ordinary UFO (unidentified flying object)," the Commander of the Air Force of Zimbabwe, Air Marshall Azim Daudpeta, told The Herald yesterday. "Scores of people saw it. Even the two pilots of the fighter aircraft had visual contact with it over Bulawayo."

The object, said to be orange, was tracked by visual sightings on Monday afternoon last week from Beltbridge, Gwanda, Mwenezi and West Nicholson and then Plumtree. It was then seen clearly from the control tower at Bulawayo Airport and the meteorology radar at the airport locked on to it.

Two fighters were scrambled at 5.45 pm and they were directed to the object hovering above the city at around 7,000 feet. It accelerated upwards at a "tremendous speed," according to Air Commodore Dave Thorne of the Air Force of Zimbabwe headquarters.

The Hawks levelled out at 31,000 feet and the UFO stopped at 37,000 feet.

When the two fighters returned to Thornhill Air Force Base, the object was seen above the base by the two pilots and several officers and men.

Air Commodore Thorne said some 95 percent of UFO's are easily explained. "The one that was sighted over Bulawayo and out-climbed our fighters is obviously one of the 5 per cent that are not explainable".

Neither the Commander nor Air Commodore Thorne were prepared to believe that the flying object might have been a remotely controlled air-ship because of its quiet operation and its powerful vertical acceleration.

After the craft hovered over Thornhill for a few moments it flew eastwards horizontally again at a high speed. Trained observers at Bulawayo airport said the object seemed to be rounded with a short cone stretching above it. The diameter was shorter than the wing span of a Boeing 707 and it was silent.

It shone very brightly in the afternoon sun and was difficult to see distinctly. The two observers, who have both been trained to observe objects in the air accurately, said they had seen nothing like it before.

In the past Met. Office balloons have been seen and only identified later but this is not one of those cases; the Air Force says it could not have been a Met. balloon and this is confirmed by other sources.

In its spectacular rise over Bulawayo Air Port from 7,000 to 70,000 feet in less than a minute the object must have been travelling at more than 2,300 kmh. during the middle part of the ascent, around twice the speed of sound at those altitudes.

Credit: C. Hind.

Herald, Harare, Zimbabwe - Aug. 2, 1985.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHS UNDER ANALYSIS.

We have recently received a series of photographs which appear similar to the Zimbabwe reports and the object sighted by Mr. Wran and photographed by the pilot of his aircraft.

Further investigations are being carried out on, both the photographs we received and the many reports of this type in Australia and Zimbabwe.

Our findings will be published in our next edition of the Australian UFO Bulletin.

FEAR OF RIDICULE STIFLES MANY UFO TALES.

Leonminster - Janet Labor, of Howard St. Lost a babysitting job after publicizing in the newspaper that she lives in the former home of Betty Aho Andreasson, a woman who claims she was visited on Howard Street, by extraterrestrial beings.

Labor's loss would not be a surprise to several area residents attending Tuesday's UFO presentation by Raymond E. Rowler, national UFO expert.

At least five people in the audience claimed to have made UFO sitings. Only one, Mames DuBois, 36, of Athol would give his name. The Others refused for fear of being ridiculed by friends, neighbours and co-workers.

Jules Vaillancourt, section director of the Worcester County Mutual UFO Network, says this fear of ridicule is a normal reaction among UFO observers. Statistics estimate that only 20 percent of actual UFO sitings ever get reported.

Many people attended the presentation because they were curious and would like to believe other beings do exist in the universe.

Ina Larsen, of Lunenburg, feels "there must be some portion of truth (in the reported encounters) or else everyone has an over-active imagination".

Larsen's daughter, Loni, said, "So many people have seen something, there's a good possibility (other beings do exist)".

Some of Andreasson's old neighbours came to find out "what happened in their own backyard."

Elizabeth Faley, owned the house at 77 Howard St. in 1944 when Andreasson had her first alleged encounter.

Faley said she never heard anything about the incident until she heard about Fowler's book just over a month ago.

Molly Kelser, who grew up in the same house years later, said she was skeptical about UFOs and its related drama, but now finds the story "hard not to believe." "I never thought I'd say that," Kelser laughed, amused at the possibility of the existence of extraterrestrial beings.

Jerry Gallant was disappointed Andreasson was not in attendance and she was reported as being on vacation in Bermuda.

He said "Because she's not here it leaves a really strong doubt as to the validity of the whole situation." He added, however, that he does believe "there's a possibility of extraterrestrial beings existing because, when you look at the size and scope of the galaxy, (earth) can't be the only place where there's some type of being around."

Credit - Sentinel & Enterprise,
Fitchburg, MA. Aug. 28, 1985.

and Lucius Farish, UFO Newsclipping Service,
Route 1 - Box 220. Plummerville.
Arkansas. 72127 U.S.A.

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Ed:- VUFORS reviewed Betty Andreasson's book 'The Andreasson Affair' in a previous Bulletin.

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CHINA SEES 600 UFOs SINCE '80.

Japan Times, Tokyo - Japan, Aug. 30.
1985.

BELJING (AP) - More than 600 unidentified flying objects have been spotted in China in the past five years, according to a report from the country's first UFO Seminar.

The meeting of 40 scientists in the northeast part of Dalian ended Tuesday, the official Xinhua news agency reported Wednesday. One scholar said the first UFO picture in the world was taken in China's northeast city of Tianjin 40 years ago.

China set up its first UFO research society in 1981 and it now has 20000 members, the report said.

The most recent sight was spectacular.

The overseas edition of the People's Daily (Renmin Ribao) quoted the pilot of a CAAC state airline Boeing 747 jetliner as having encountered a UFO whose brilliance extended for 40 to 50 km.

The pilot said he spotted the object in June as he flew over western China's Gansu province on a flight to Paris.

"The object travelled extremely fast, pacing the air-craft in a southerly direction for about two minutes," the paper reported.

In a later press report, pilot Wang Shuting was quoted as saying the yellow UFO appeared only as large as a walnut when viewed from the cockpit. He said it glowed much brighter than other stars in the sky.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Steve Partridge - MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

INTRODUCTIONS!

Firstly, I'll introduce myself. My name is Steve Partridge & I am the new Membership Secretary. I succeed Stafford Hall, who held the position for several years, during which time he was a great asset to the Society. Unfortunately he was unable to continue due to his occupational work load. Thank's for your help Stafford!

Also we welcome Warren Janson & Rick Rendell as new Officers of the Committee. Both have shown great interest & willingness to help. Their assistance will be invaluable.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, CARDS, ETC.

Due to ever increasing costs we have found it necessary to discontinue the issuing of Membership cards. Also, in line with common business practice, a receipt will not be issued where payment is made by cheque or postal order.

In lieu of these actions we have introduced what we believe is a more informative & regular method of notifying you of your membership status.

You may have noticed that we have introduced a computerised addressing method for the Bulletin. In the top left corner of the address label affixed to the front cover of all your recent & future Bulletins, is a coding.

e.g. 12/1985 V03

This indicates the last Bulletin for which you are financial. (i.e. entitled to receive) In this example - the December 1985 edition. The coding after the date is simply a postal area grouping & may be ignored.

Therefore in order to check your membership status you need only locate your most recent edition & check the address label.

Additionally, we will continue to mark the 'boxes' on the inside front cover of your second last & last Bulletins. Your second last will be ticked in the 'FIRST' notice box, & your last in the 'FINAL' box.

We would greatly appreciate your efforts in keeping a check on the renewal boxes & your address labels, in order to renew promptly when due.

MARKETING

VUFORS have several high quality, Australian made items that you may wish to purchase.

- Windcheaters** - Royal Blue with long sleeves & a VUFORS emblem on the left chest.
- T-Shirts** - White with the VUFORS emblem printed on the left chest.
- Cloth Badges** - Circular, depicting in colour, the VUFORS emblem.
- Stickers** - As per the Cloth Badges in appearance.

All items are attractively priced & their purchase benefits your Society. For more details, & to simplify ordering, a comprehensive Order Form has been included in this edition. If it has been removed, simply write to the Society & one will be forwarded.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the society of any change in your postal address. This will ensure you receive your Bulletins without interruption.